

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-4 and 6-24 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 17 and 22 are independent. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 22-24 have been added.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

In the last Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 7-21 are allowed. Further, the Examiner indicated that claims 3, 5 and 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

The limitations of allowable claim 5 have been incorporated into claim 1. Therefore, claims 1-4 and 6 should now be in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 22. Therefore, claims 22-24 should also be in condition for allowance.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Uchizaki. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By the incorporation of allowable subject matter into independent claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been rendered moot.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Scott L. Lowe (Reg. No. 41,458) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any

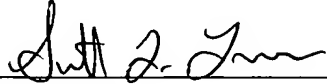
Application No.: 10/721,094

Docket No.: 0630-1871P

additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Scott L. Lowe

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